

## Notes from Event panel 18/01/2022

### regarding planned Public Speaking Society Event with speaker Dan Pena

In Attendance:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Apologies:

[REDACTED]

### Introduction

[REDACTED] set out the agenda for the meeting, referring to the agenda and associated documents. The links and summary of evidence are included as an appendix to this document for reference.

### Risk Factors Considered

| Risk Factor   |   | Note   |
|---|---|--|
| Freedom of Speech   | ■ | Although likely to cause offence, it is not felt that freedom of speech legislation would be breached.   |
| Physical Security   | ■ | There is a risk of counter protest by individuals or groups who may be offended by the speakers views, however this would be managed via standard protocol.<br>Note that the speaker is not in practice receptive to moderation, therefore these measures would have limited efficacy, even if agreed to in advance.   |
| Health, safety and wellbeing – duty of care to staff and students | ■ | The speaker directly advocates suicide for individuals who are unable to find success. This poses a real risk to individuals of a vulnerable mental disposition. The mitigations suggested in the risk assessment include:<br>1. The speaker agreeing to topics that can and cannot be included, and to tailor content to a University audience. <u>However</u> the link within the appendix to footage from the University of Greenwich shows that this has not been the case. His methods are clearly aimed at “treating everybody like shit”, and this is evidenced within both sets of footage as including those who attempt to moderate.<br>2. Making wellbeing support available to impacted individuals, <u>however</u> the risk is not limited to attendance at the session and is reliant on an individual seeking help. The risk extends beyond the session, with a further risk that an individual may go deeper into the speaker’s material online. There is footage of Mr Pena giving stats on the number of attempted suicides and nervous breakdowns that have been linked directly to his programme, to which he adds “that was a good year”. The speaker also runs motivational speaking programmes, for which he charges, and would be advertising via this talk. |

## Decision

The panel considered refusing the use of University facilities to host the event, allowing the society to go ahead at an alternative location. It was agreed that this should not be allowed, as this did not change the risks to health, safety and wellbeing.

The panel **agreed** that on health, safety and wellbeing grounds, the event should not be permitted to go ahead. It should be noted that the specific cause for concern relates to the advocacy of suicide for those who are unable to achieve or deemed to be weak. This is a common theme in Mr Pena's material. The proposed mitigations of (1) an agreement on content in advance and (2) wellbeing support to be made available to attendees should they require it are not deemed sufficient for the following reasons:

- The speaker is not receptive to moderation, and is shown to behave aggressively when this is attempted
- The risk is not limited to attendance at the event, as once exposed to the speaker, any attendee may then access material online that very explicitly carries the suicide message
- The availability of wellbeing support is reliant on help being asked for, which may not be forthcoming when in a vulnerable mental state

## Action

██████████ and ██████████ to prepare some wording for a response to the student society setting out the position.

## APPENDIX - Supporting information

Dan Pena bills himself as a billionaire, and hosts workshops and talks to coach others to follow in his success.

**LINK ONE:** [Watch How This Dangerous Fake Billionaire, Dan Peña, Gets Caught And Exposed With Body Language - YouTube](#) – an interview with Mr Pena, interspersed with footage from his programme and other interview footage.

1. [REDACTED]  
 2. [REDACTED]  
 3. [REDACTED]  
 4. [REDACTED]  
 5. [REDACTED]  
 6. [REDACTED]  
 7. [REDACTED]  
 8. [REDACTED]  
 9. [REDACTED]  
 10. [REDACTED]

- [illegible]

\_\_\_\_\_

- [illegible]

**LINK TWO:** [DAN PENA HIGHLIGHTS - UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH - YouTube](#) - footage from a talk at University of Greenwich in 2019. Evidence that he does not moderate his content or language for a University audience. Teaching that “treating everybody like shit is what works to bring you success”. Much of the same content as evidenced in the previous link. Continues to be full of discriminatory language, such as

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Notes – Could placing freedom of speech – nothing illegal.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Society has booked him as he is likely to generate interest. It has not yet been publicised.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]